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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: SAKUMA et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/696,353
FILED: October 29, 2003
FOR: Circular Shaped Metal Structure and Method of Fabricating...
GROUP: 2852 Confirmation No. 6725
DOCKET: AMANO A372

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants hereby attach U.S. Patent Office form PTO-1449, including a copy of the reference listed therein. Where available, English language counterparts and/or abstracts are being provided for the Examiner's convenience. This reference was cited in the Japanese Office Action dated November 7, 2005 issued in the Japanese counterpart patent application. Reference JP 2001-225134 is already of record in this case. Thus, an additional copy is not being provided. Enclosed is a copy of the Japanese Office Action, together with an English translation of the relevant portions thereof. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over this reference.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made

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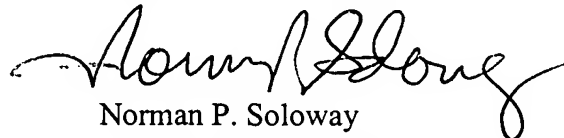
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that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted therewith.

The enclosed Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the Japanese Office Action, as certified in the attached Certification for Information Disclosure Statement. Therefore, we believe there are no fees involved with this Information Disclosure Statement. In the event there are additional fees payable, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

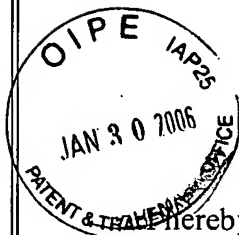
Respectfully submitted,



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Serial No. 10/696,353
Docket No. AMANO A372

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 26, 2006 at Tucson, Arizona.

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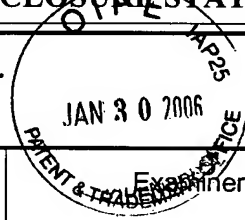
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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) ACCOMPANYING
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Docket No.
AMANO A372

In Re Application Of: **SAKUMA et al.**



Application No. 10/696,353	Filing Date October 29, 2003	Examiner [illegible]	Customer No. 27667	Group Art Unit 2852	Confirmation No. 6725
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Invention: **CIRCULAR SHAPED METAL STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This is a statement under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) in the above-identified application.


Check applicable statement herebelow:

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2)

- ☐ No item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned person, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.


Signature

Dated: **January 26, 2006**

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<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; margin-right: 10px; text-align: center;"> OIP JAN 20 2006 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE </div> <div> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> </div> </div>				Docket Number (Optional) AMANO A372		Application Number 10/696,353		
				Applicant(s) SAKUMA et al.				
				Filing Date October 29, 2003		Group Art Unit 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		2002-169392	6.14.02	JAPAN (w/ abstract)	G03G	15/20		
OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>								
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								